CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	16.jpg
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	802392
Medium:	Computer Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	17 July 2009
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer image file promotes and supports the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes and is deemed objectionable.

The file shows two boys who appear to be in their mid-teenage years engaging in sexual activity. The purpose of the image is to sexually titillate or arouse viewers. It encourages adult sexual interest in young persons and strengthens the idea that they are appropriate sexual partners for adults. Such images also advance the idea that boys in their mid-teens are ready for adult forms of sexual activity. The effect is to encourage the sexual exploitation of young people.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications that promote and support the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes are deemed to be objectionable. The classification is also a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from sexual exploitation.